



*Welcome to
the Catholic Communities of
St. Mary's, Clayton
St. John's, LaFargeville*



January 24, 2021

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rev. Arthur J. LaBaff, Pastor

Phone: 315-686-3398

Pastoral Associate

Deacon Neil Fuller

email: pastoralassociate@stmarysclayton.org

Deacon Assistants

Gary A. Frank

Bruce Daugherty

Parish Office

Maribeth McFadden, Secretary

email: reception@stmarysclayton.org

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm

Religious Education Office

(Located in St. Mary's Parish Center)

Jennifer Barton 315-686-2638

email: religioused@stmarysclayton.org

**Buildings & Grounds
& Cemeteries**

Call the Parish Office 315-686-3398

St. Mary's Weekend Masses

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

St. John's Weekend Masses

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Weekday & Holy Day Masses

See page 2 or call the Parish Office

Reconciliation

3:00-3:30pm Saturday

in St. Mary's parish center

and by appointment

First Friday Holy Hour

after 9:00 a.m. Mass on the first
Friday of the month at St. Mary's

Prayer Line

315-285-5541

smsjprayerline@gmail.com

It was a normal day by all accounts, but John just wasn't feeling himself. He was a little lightheaded and out of sorts. Later in the afternoon, he experienced a sharp pain in his chest and arm. Quick thinking and action brought John to the emergency department with a diagnosis of a significant heart attack. Surviving this ordeal, he found himself face to face with his cardiologist, having an honest conversation about things that needed to change. "I came close to death," John found himself thinking. Then came the remorse. He was a young man with a loving wife and children who were very close to facing life without him. John found himself with intense sorrow for living an unchecked and self-indulgent life that almost brought him to his demise. He wanted to change.

We all have our wake-up calls. We have experiences and encounters that force us to really think twice about choices we have made and directions we have taken. Often, we find ourselves looking at those we have hurt square in the eye and wallowing in our foolishness. We regrettably realize that we have allowed our needs to lure us into making some cruel mistakes. We impulsively say things and flippantly do things that reveal our unredeemed and unhealed self. It is a self we stumble over and try to tame but can't quite seem to master and control. Help!

We spin our wheels, naively thinking that we will somehow, perhaps through persistence, get ourselves unstuck. But, we don't. We just get out of the car, feeling very helpless, and ignorantly look at the mess we got ourselves into. Did we ever think to ask someone for help? Or, taken the advice of One who is wiser and avoid this route altogether? "Come after me," are words that Jesus says to all of us. In order to heed his invitation, we must leave our ego-self behind and follow.

When we really see and understand the freedom, peace, justice, and love he offers, we find ourselves with such sorrow in our hearts for how foolish and silly we have been. All the misguided choices and sinful actions come full view and we see how risky our random impassioned behaviors really have been. Repentance is beautiful. When done with a sincere and contrite heart, it directs us to the glory that can be ours, ignites us with the challenge of living a life in service of others and reminds us that all is well.

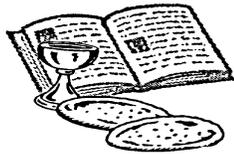
Website: www.stmarysclayton.org

Rectory & Parish Offices: 521 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624

Phone: 315-686-3398

January 24, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Lord Calls: "Let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned, to which God has called you." Talk to Fr. Art LaBaff, or Fr. Chris Carrara at ccarrara@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, or Cathy Russell at crussell@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920.



MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY, January 23, Anticipated Vigil

4:00 (SM) Lucy Reff by the Roden family

SUNDAY, January 24, 3rd Sunday Ordinary Time

9:00 (SM) Harry Bazinet by Tim & Cheryl Pacific

11:00 (SJ) People of the Parishes

MONDAY, January 25

9:00 (SM) COMMUNION SERVICE

TUESDAY, January 26

9:00 (SM) COMMUNION SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, January 27

9:00 (SM) COMMUNION SERVICE

THURSDAY, January 22

9:00 (SM) COMMUNION SERVICE

FRIDAY, January 29

9:00 (SM) COMMUNION SERVICE

SATURDAY, January 30, Anticipated Vigil

4:00 (SM) Daniel & Sarah Weaver by their family

SUNDAY, January 31, 4th Sunday Ordinary Time

9:00 (SM) Hans Wahl by Lars & Eileen Hauck

11:00 (SJ) People of the Parishes

The Respect Life Collection is this weekend, January 23/24 in our parishes recognizing the sad anniversary of the Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision which legalized abortion in our nation. Grants from this collection benefit pro-life projects in our diocese. Thank you for your support of efforts to build a culture of life. You are invited to visit the Diocesan Respect Life office at www.rcdony.org, then choose "Offices" and "Respect Life" to be an informed Catholic.

Thank You

A Special Thank You to
Fr. Corneille Bayeye, M.S.C.
for presiding at our Masses
while Fr. LaBaff is away.

St. Mary's Booster Club: Winners of the tenth weekly drawing on January 15 are John Heaslip, Paul Heckmann, and Katherine Weaver. The \$100 winners are Fran Getman, Midge Fraser, and Donna Orvis. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket for the Booster Club. Tickets for the next Booster Club with dinner in May will be on sale soon. To join, volunteer, or for questions, contact Donna (315-778-8672), Tim (315-778-2484), or the parish office (315-686-3398).

The Gospel of John: A virtual adult faith formation study for Lent. Beginning February 5 at 1pm for eight Fridays via Zoom. This is your opportunity to encounter and deepen your relationship with Jesus through the miraculous stories of those who encountered him face to face. Cost is \$13 for a workbook. Deadline to register at www.catholicwatertown.org/adult-faith-formation is January 25. For more info, contact Deacon Kevin Mastellon at kmastellon@spwatn.org.

Weekly Giving

Thank you for your continued support.

St. Mary's	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 2,617.00	\$ 1,371.00
Plate	\$ 201.00	\$ 367.00

St. John's	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 163.00	\$ 293.00
Plate	\$ 6.00	\$ 10.00

Please consider electronic giving...a safe and consistent way to support your parish. Sign up at www.stmarysclayton.org or contact the parish office for more info.

Prayer for Peace

Dear Lord, I pray for peace.

Jesus, you said, "when I am lifted up on the earth, I will draw all men to myself."

As I lift my thoughts and prayers to the high consciousness of peace, I help lift the thoughts of all people across the entire country and the world to peace.

Father, what a blessing it is to know that I can add to the peace of this country and world through prayer.

God, my prayers reach out to untangle all people of the earth.

I know that the same feeling of peace that is within me resides in people everywhere no matter who they are, or where they live.

No matter the religion we profess, each person has been created with the peace of God at the core of his or her being.

God's peace resolves all seeming disagreements and dissolves all differences.

God's peace brings great freedom to all.

My prayer and my vision of the world is of a peaceful world.

As I hold to this prayer and vision, I remember that peace begins with me.

I pray, in Jesus Christ's name. Amen.

Bishop LaValley

Celebrate World Day of Prayer For Consecrated Life on February 6-7. On this day we recognize the countless men and women who live consecrated life in various ways as well as their contributions to the growth of the Church. We especially pray for those men and women in our diocese who daily live the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience while belonging to a community and tirelessly working in ministry. Through their example of discipleship, may we be inspired to deeper communion with Christ and may there be an increase in vocations to the consecrated life. If you would like to speak with a religious priest, brother, sister or for info, contact Fr. Chris at ccarra@rcdony.org, Cathy at crussell@rcdony.org or the Vocation Office 315-393-2920.

"How can we sustain a culture that recoils at violence, exclusion, suicide, racism, injustice, and callousness toward those in need, if we applaud, allow, pay for, and promote the destruction of the most helpless, the baby in the womb?" writes Cardinal Timothy Dolan on January 13, 2021.

Despite pro-abortionists' claims that people would learn to accept and live with abortion, the opposite has happened, he recalls.

"We have hardly gotten used to it," Dolan declares. "Abortion remains the hottest issue in our politics, with polls showing that most Americans want restrictions on its unquestioned use, and do not want their taxes to pay for it."

"Now, the pro-abortionists no longer call abortion regrettable, but celebrate it and brag about it!" Dolan says, and many admit the child in the womb is a human baby, but a baby with no right to life.

"Now it's an unfettered right, at any time during the pregnancy, up to and including the very birth, with demands that sincere health care professionals whose consciences rebel at the grizzly procedure be forced to perform them," Dolan continues, "that tax money pay for them, that our foreign policy insists other countries promote them, and that the freedom of employers who abhor them still offer insurance to cover them."

THE SEARCH: The office of New Evangelization will offer an opportunity to view and discuss Formed.org program *The Search*, a 7-episode program that explored the deepest questions of the human heart: Why am I here? What's life all about? What happens when we die? — and guides you through the great big story of everything, as astrophysicists, psychologists, neuroscientists, artists, chemists and professors point to one big (surprising) conclusion: Jesus Christ, and the Catholic Church. What do you seek? We will meet via Zoom seven consecutive Mondays from 6:30-8pm starting February 1 to view and discuss *The Search* episodes. Online Registration form is at www.rcdony.org/thesearch. For more info, contact Marika at 315-393-2920 ext. 1380 or mdonders@rcdony.org.

Did You Know...

by Judy Pearson

Our Lady of Peace

The memorial feast of Our Lady of Peace (Our lady, Queen of Peace) is celebrated on two dates: January 24 (in Hawaii and some churches in the United States) and July 9 (many other parts of the world). The story of celebration begins in the early 16th century when Jean de Joyeuse presented a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary to his bride, Françoise e Voisins on their wedding day. Mary was depicted holding an olive branch in her right hand and the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, seated in her left hand.

The statue became a family heirloom and was passed down to her grandson, Henri Joyeuse, who joined the Capuchin community around 1588. The statue remained with the Capuchins in Paris for the next 200 years; it was renamed *Notre Dame de Paix – Our Lady of Peace*.

In 1657 the Capuchin community erected a large chapel as there were so many who came seeking her intercession. On July 9, the papal nuncio to France blessed and solemnly enthroned Mary's statue. Later, Pope Alexander VII designated this date for the Capuchin community to celebrate the feast.

In 1789, the anti-Catholic French Revolution erupted and the Capuchins were forced out of their monastery. They fled in secret with the statue and it was kept in Paris, entrusted to Fr. Peter Coudrin, a diocesan priest who kept it hidden until the Revolution was over.

In 1800, Fr. Coudrin and Henriette Aymer de Chevaliere co-founded an institute of sisters, brothers and priests: The Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and the Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Our Lady of Peace became the patroness of the congregation.

This congregation were early missionaries to Hawaii. There they established the first Catholic church, which was dedicated to Our Lady of Peace. When the Diocese of Hawaii was erected on January 25, 1941 by Pope Pius XII, he dedicated the Cathedral to Our Lady of Peace. It is due to this date that Our Lady of Peace is celebrated on January 24 in the United States (January 25 being the Conversion of St. Paul).

Today, the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace in Honolulu is the oldest Roman Catholic cathedral in continuous use in the United States.



The March for Life marches on! The 48th-annual March for Life rally will take place virtually on January 29 and all are asked to join the March virtually. March for Life will invite

a small group of pro-life leaders from across the country to march in Washington, DC this year. These leaders will represent pro-life Americans everywhere who, each in their own unique ways, work to make abortion unthinkable and build a culture where every human life is valued and protected. We invite you to join us online by RSVPing at <https://marchforlife.org/2021-virtual-events/>. On January 29, you will receive a link in your email inbox containing the link to watch the March for Life Rally and march. And remember to pray always for Life from conception to natural death.

Diocesan Mass for Life: Due to the pandemic the Diocese of Ogdensburg will not be sponsoring trips to Washington, D. C. for the annual March For Life. Bishop LaValley will be celebrating a Mass for Life, live streamed at 11am on January 24th, 2021. You are invited to attend or attend on-line at www.rcdony.org/livemass.



In 2019, 2,700 pro-life pregnancy centers nationwide served almost 2 million people at an estimated value of nearly \$270 million, according to the Charlotte Lozier Institute's October 2020 report, "Pregnancy Centers Stand the Test of Time." Pregnancy centers are on the front lines of the pro-life movement, caring for women most in need. These very centers will only continue to serve mothers and babies in this new year, witnessing the pro-life movement's mission of true compassion, care and empowerment.

Prayers of the Joys/Sorrows of St. Joseph: Beginning January 31 for the seven Sundays before the March 19 Feast of St. Joseph, all are encouraged to pray and meditate on the Seven Joys and Sorrows of St. Joseph. A prayer booklet is available at the parish office or on-line at www.rcdony.org/enotes

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